

Application No. 10/715,003
Preliminary Amendment "A" dated June 18, 2004

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraph [0026] beginning at page 10 as reflected in the following marked-up version of the paragraph:

[0026] Although CARBOPOL® is very effective in creating viscous gels for tray bleaching of teeth, its side effects in acid etching of tooth enamel and chelation are damaging to the very teeth that it is desired to restore to a more aesthetic condition. Information concerning the detrimental effects of prior art dental bleaches on tooth enamel can be found in the following articles: (i) Perdigao, J., et al., "Ultra-Morphological Study of the Interaction of Dental Adhesives with Carbamide Peroxide-Bleached Enamel", *American Journal of Dentistry*, vol. 11, No. 6, pp. 291-301, December 1998; (ii) Pinheirojunior, E.c., et al., "In Vitro Action of Various Carbamide Peroxide Gel Bleaching Agents on the Microhardness of Human Enamel", *Braz. Dent. J.*, 7(2): 75-79 (1996); (iii) Shannon, al., "Characterization of Enamel Exposed to 10% Carbamide Peroxide Bleaching Agents", *Quintessence International*, vol. 24, no. 1, pp. 39-44 (1993); (iv) Bitter, N., "A Scanning Electron Microscope Study of the Long-Term Effect of Bleaching Agents on the Enamel Surface In Vivo", *General Dentistry*, pp. 84-88, (January-February 1998). The prior art shows a need for dental bleach and a method for its use that includes a thickener or gelling agent that does not attack or react with tooth enamel.

Please amend paragraph [0048] at page 16 as reflected in the following marked-up version of the paragraph:

[0048] Polyvinylpyrrolidone has the advantage of serving as a thickening agent or gelling agent while failing to: (i) interfere with release of oxygen ions from the bleaching agent or contact of those oxygen ions to the teeth to be bleached, (ii) chemically etch tooth enamel, (iii) remove calcium from tooth enamel by chelation, and (iii) (iv) solidify the dental bleach.

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Please amend paragraph [0063] at page 22 as reflected in the following marked-up version of the paragraph:

[0063] A single chamber syringe 307 is provided having a chamber 307a containing dental bleach. A plunger ~~307h~~ 307b is used to expel a desired quantity of dental bleach 305 from the syringe tip 307c. In some embodiments, the pH of the dental bleach 305 within the syringe will not exceed pH = 7, or the bleaching agent may become destabilized prior to use.

Please amend paragraph [0070] at page 25 as reflected in the following marked-up version of the paragraph:

[0070] As shown in Figure 9, an alternative embodiment, a strip of material 1012 may have shallow pockets ~~18~~ 1018 formed therein. When substance 1014 is coated on a substance-coated side of strip of material 1012, additional substance 1014 fills shallow pockets 1018 to provide reservoirs of additional substance 1014.

Please amend paragraph [0072] at page 25 as reflected in the following marked-up version of the paragraph:

[0072] In both Figures 10 and 11, delivery system 1024 represents strip of material 1012 and substance 1014, with substance ~~14~~ 1014 on the side of strip of material 1012 facing adjacent teeth 1022. Substance 1014 may be pre-applied to strip of material 1012 or applied to strip of material 1012 by the delivery system user. In either case, strip of material 1012 has a thickness and flexural stiffness which enable it to conform to the contoured surfaces of adjacent teeth 1022 and to adjacent soft tissue 1020. The strip of flexible material has sufficient flexibility to form a curved shape around a plurality of adjacent teeth. The strip of material is also readily conformable to tooth surfaces and to the interstitial tooth spaces without permanent deformation when the delivery system is applied. The delivery system is applied without significant pressure.

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Please amend paragraph [0073] at page 26 as reflected in the following marked-up version of the paragraph:

[0073] Figures 12 and 13 show delivery system 1024 applied to both front and rear surfaces of a plurality of adjacent teeth 1022 as well as to adjacent soft tissue 20 1020 located by the front surfaces of the teeth. Delivery system 1024 represents strip of material 1012 and substance 1014, with substance 1014 on the side of strip of material 1012 facing adjacent teeth.